



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PARTNERSHIP HOLDS EARLY EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

**Jefferson, NC** – Ashe County Partnership for Children recently welcomed sixty-seven early child care teachers, about half of Ashe County’s total birth-to-five-year-old workforce , to its annual Early Childhood Education Conference. This all day affair was held at Family Central and gave the teachers, directors, and family child care home owners an opportunity to attend sessions led by experts in the field of child development. A variety of topics was offered: Infant Toddler Language Development; Multiculturalism in the Preschool Classroom; Movement and Music; Current Issues in Child Development, among others.

Following a full day of sessions, Lorie Barnes, President of the North Carolina Association of the Education of Young Children, ended the day with an enthusiastic presentation called Slippery Eggs and Tennis Balls, focusing on communication among staff and parents.

This annual conference is one of the many ways that Ashe County Partnership for Children provides educational opportunities for Ashe’s early child care educators, insuring quality care for young children.

Ashe County Partnership for Children is a non-profit organization that provides programs and services for families and children in Ashe County. They fund or directly run various programs such as: Smart Start programs to benefit children ages birth through five and their families; Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault prevention and awareness services; a Family Literacy program with transportation, child care and family support; and Family Support Services offering parenting support and a play room open to the public.

If you or someone you know would like more information on child care in Ashe County, please contact Kay Philipp at (336) 982-8870 or at [kayp@ashechildren.org](mailto:kayp@ashechildren.org). For more information about Ashe County Partnership for Children and their programs, visit [www.ashechildren.org](http://www.ashechildren.org), or call (336) 982-4588.

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